

Summary of August 31, 2004 Community Meeting

1. **Introductions-** The City introduced Andrew "Drew" Kleis and Deborah "Deb" Castillo as the Project Managers for two Chollas Creek grants. Also in attendance were Mike Cairns and Ann Redington of PBS&J, who are the engineers for the project. To facilitate the evening's discussion, Nina Fishman, Maggie Taylor and Toni Bowen of the City's OEP department were on hand. Individual introductions of community members in attendance were also made. This is the first of six meetings over the next three years. The initial two to three meetings will be focused on the restoration of a portion of Chollas Creek adjacent to "Youth Park" and Jacobs Foundation land.

A community member asked that the contact list for this project be distributed to other project managers who are managing creek improvement projects in Chollas Creek. Drew agreed to distribute the contact lists and offered to make the list available to anyone interested.

2. **Neighborhood Advisory Council-** The group agreed to the following ground rules for the meetings:
 - a. Treat one another with respect
 - b. Let everyone's voice be heard
 - c. Record decisions & agreements
 - d. Be mindful of time when holding the floor to speak. When given a hand signal, please conclude your remarks.
3. **Project Description-** A 1-page Fact Sheet entitled, "Overview" was distributed (enclosed in this mailing). Deborah outlined the education and awareness programs she is managing in the Chollas Creek Watershed. She voiced a need for residents and businesses to participate in a series of upcoming focus group discussions. The focus group work will begin in October/November with the purpose of identifying motivating messages, outreach methods and tools that will be most effective in the Chollas Creek watershed. Those interested in participating in the education focus group discussions are asked to contact Deborah at (619) 525-8649 or via e-mail at dcastillo@sandiego.gov.

Drew Kleis then began to outline the Chollas Creek Restoration Project at Youth Park (see Fact Sheet for a summary of the activities). The Project will implement creek restoration improvements in accordance with the Chollas Creek Enhancement Program developed by the community and adopted by the San Diego City Council in May 2002. Community input is sought over the design aspects to be incorporated

into the project. This meeting and the next one (September 14th) will be the opportunity for the community to provide guidance to the design engineer. Future meetings will provide updates to the community as the design progresses.

4. **Community Discussion and Input-** the meeting broke-up into work groups where design elements and suggestions were written down. After a 30 minute brainstorming session, each group presented its ideas to the whole meeting. The suggestions are attached and titled "Chollas Creek Restoration at Youth Park Design Suggestions." The list will be reviewed and refined at the next meeting. Some participants asked that the notes summarize when an issue was raised more frequently and that the City provide links and supporting information to issues, when possible.
5. **Closing Remarks-** The next meeting will be September 14, 2004, from 6-8:00 PM at the Tubman-Chavez Community Center.

Some community members expressed interest in reaching out to more members of the community to advertise the meetings and seek input. Drew asked that anyone in attendance please feel free to distribute flyers to friends and others in the community. The City will also continue to work to distribute meeting notices and information to as many community members as possible. Drew also reiterated that they may provide names of interested members of the public to him at akleis@sandiego.gov or 619/525-8623.